

Representatives has brought up, and hopefully will pass, this bill. The key, of course, lies with our friends in the other Chamber. So I look forward to working with our colleagues in the Senate and getting the bill moved through that Chamber as well.

I was first made aware of this problem, as I say, by my friend MIKE TURNER when I was first elected to Congress back in 1997. Here we are in 2010. The issue is still not resolved. This is an issue of great frustration to people who deal with notaries on a daily basis.

Several years ago, the House Judiciary Committee worked with supporters of this issue to find a satisfactory solution to the problem of the recognition of notarizations across State lines. In March of 2006, the Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property heard from several witnesses who all agreed that this is an ongoing and difficult problem for interstate commerce. To businesses and individuals engaged in businesses across State lines, this is a matter long overdue.

In a nutshell, as it has been stated, H.R. 3808 will expedite interstate commerce so that court documents and other notarized documents will be fully recognized from one State to another. Today States can refuse to acknowledge the integrity of notarized documents from one State to another. This legislation, H.R. 3808, will streamline the interstate, commercial, and legal transactions consistent with the guarantees of the States' rights that are called for in the full faith and credit clause of the United States Constitution.

This legislation preserves the rights of States to set standards and regulate notaries, while reducing the burden on the average citizen who has to use our court systems. Currently, as the law stands today, each State is responsible for regulating its notaries. Typically, an individual will pay a fee, they will submit an application, and they will take an oath of office. Some States require the applicants enroll in educational courses, to pass exams, and even obtain a notary bond. Nothing in this legislation will change those steps. Please know we are not trying to mandate how States regulate notaries which they appoint. The bill will not preclude the challenge of notarized documents such as a will contest.

Again, I want to stress that this is in no way trying to mandate what a State should do or what a State should not do. It simply allows there to be more free flow of commerce between States, and particularly when you are talking about the regulation of notaries themselves.

Again, I want to thank the chairman and also the ranking member for their support of this legislation to allow us to move forward. I would urge my colleagues that when this legislation is brought for a vote that they would support it under suspension of the rules.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time,

and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass H.R. 3808, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3808.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. DOYLE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1033) expressing support for designation of April 2010 as "National Autism Awareness Month" and supporting efforts to devote new resources to research into the causes and treatment of autism and to improve training and support for individuals with autism and those who care for individuals with autism, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1033

Whereas autism is a developmental disorder that is typically diagnosed during the first 3 years of life, affecting individuals' ability to communicate and interact with others;

Whereas autism affects an estimated 1 in every 110 children in the United States;

Whereas autism is four times more likely to be diagnosed in boys than in girls;

Whereas autism can affect anyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, or other factors;

Whereas it costs approximately \$80,000 per year to treat an individual with autism in a medical center specializing in developmental disabilities;

Whereas the cost of special education programs for school-age children with autism is often more than \$30,000 per individual per year;

Whereas the cost nationally of caring for persons affected by autism is estimated at upwards of \$90,000,000,000 per year;

Whereas despite the fact that autism is one of the most common developmental disorders, many professionals in the medical and educational fields are still unaware of the best methods to diagnose and treat the disorder; and

Whereas April 2010 would be an appropriate month to designate as "National Autism Awareness Month" to increase public awareness of the need to support individuals with autism and the family members and medical professionals who care for individuals with autism: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States House of Representatives—

(1) expresses support for designation of a "National Autism Awareness Month";

(2) recognizes and commends the parents and relatives of children with autism for their sacrifice and dedication in providing for the special needs of children with autism and for absorbing financial costs for specialized education and support services;

(3) supports the goal of devoting resources to researching the root causes of autism, identifying the best methods of early intervention and treatment, expanding programs for individuals with autism across their lifespans, and promoting understanding of the special needs of people with autism;

(4) stresses the need to begin early intervention services soon after a child has been diagnosed with autism, noting that early intervention strategies are the primary therapeutic options for young people with autism, and that early intervention significantly improves the outcome for people with autism and can reduce the level of funding and services needed to treat people with autism later in life;

(5) recognizes the shortage of appropriately trained teachers who have the skills and support necessary to teach, assist, and respond to special needs students, including those with autism, in our school systems; and

(6) recognizes the importance of worker training programs that are tailored to the needs of people with developmental disabilities, including those with autism, and notes that people with autism can be, and are, productive members of the workforce if they are given appropriate support, training, and early intervention services.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DOYLE) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DOYLE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DOYLE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. DOYLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 1033. This resolution expresses support for the designation of this month, the month of April, as National Autism Awareness Month.

Autism spectrum disorders are a group of developmental disabilities that affect an estimated one in 100 children nationwide. ASDs, or autism, are typically diagnosed within the first 3 years of life. Autism occurs in all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups. However, we know that autism affects each person and certain groups differently.

People with Asperger's syndrome, one form of autism, typically do not have difficulty with language or intellectual disability. Others with autism have more notable language delays and social challenges, among other symptoms. This form of autism is referred to as autistic disorder, or classic autism. Autism is at least four times more likely to be diagnosed in boys than in girls.

We have made important progress in research on autism within the past few years, and I and dozens of Members of

Congress who annually seek and obtain billions of dollars for autism funding know that there remains much to learn about the risk factors and causes of this group of conditions.

We must also continue to raise awareness regarding the signs and symptoms of autism. Today's resolution gives us an opportunity to do just that. This awareness raising is particularly important since early intervention has shown to improve a child's development.

This resolution recognizes and commends parents and relatives for their dedication in caring for children with autism. It supports the investment of resources into research that will help improve our understanding of autism and promote early intervention and treatment. It also recognizes the importance of appropriately trained educators to respond to students with special needs.

Those are the reasons why my friend CHRIS SMITH and I, as founders and co-chairs of the Congressional Autism Caucus, introduced H.R. 2413, the Autism Treatment Acceleration Act. That bill will reinforce our country's work to identify the causes of autism by improving the coordination of our government's efforts. And it establishes a national network of autism research in order to strengthen linkages between research and service initiatives at the Federal, regional, State, and local levels, and facilitate the translation of research on autism into services and treatments that will improve the quality of life for individuals with autism and their families. A national data repository will be created to share emerging data, findings, and treatment models.

This resolution on the floor today mentions the needs of adults with autism, and our bipartisan bill, H.R. 2413, actually creates an adult services demonstration project to provide an array of services to adults with autism spectrum disorders, including postsecondary education, vocational and self-advocacy skills, employment; residential services, supports and housing; nutrition, health and wellness, recreational and social activities; and transportation and personal safety.

I am proud that our bill, H.R. 2413, will also create a national training initiative on autism and a technical assistance center to develop and expand interdisciplinary training and continuing education on autism spectrum disorders.

We ask all the Members of the House, including this resolution's sponsors, to join us and cosponsor H.R. 2413, the Autism Treatment Acceleration Act, a meaningful bill that would achieve the goals of today's resolution.

I want to commend Representative REICHERT, the sponsor of this resolution, for his work on this resolution at a time when so much needs to be done for children and adults with autism.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to note that the Committee on Education

and Labor received a secondary referral for this resolution. The committee agreed to waive the opportunity to exercise its jurisdiction in the interests of advancing this resolution. I want to say thank you to Chairman MILLER for allowing this resolution to be brought to the floor as quickly as possible. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 1033, expressing support for National Autism Awareness Month, and I am pleased to join the gentleman from Pennsylvania, the co-chair of the Autism Caucus, on behalf of the other cochair of the Autism Caucus, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), as well as the gentleman from Washington (Mr. REICHERT), the prime sponsor, and Mr. BACHUS of Alabama and Mr. GERLACH from Pennsylvania, who are other sponsors of this resolution.

□ 1730

The resolution, as was stated, acknowledges April as National Autism Awareness Month, and it supports the research efforts for the causes and treatments of autism. I would like to recognize the efforts of those who have gone through the appropriate training and who have provided support to individuals with autism.

I would also like to recognize the parents, the relatives, the friends of those with autism for their sacrifices and dedication, especially for absorbing many times the significant costs for specialized education and support services.

Some have estimated that one in every 110 children in the United States is affected by a disorder on the autism spectrum. Once diagnosed, early intervention is important to improve the outcomes of those with autism and to reduce the level of funding and services needed to treat people with autism spectrum disorder later in life. Continued research to identify the root causes of autism and support for the training of caregivers and teachers who work with children with autism will ensure that people with autism will continue to be important and productive members of society.

I would like to thank especially the author of the resolution, Mr. DAVID REICHERT of Washington, for his leadership in raising autism awareness, and I would like to commend the efforts of those who care for individuals with autism. I encourage all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DOYLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Mrs. DAHLKEMPER).

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 1033, expressing the House of Representatives' support for April as National Autism Awareness Month.

There are an estimated 1.5 million Americans living with autism, a developmental disorder that affects a person's ability to communicate and to interact with others. A recent report shows that autism prevalence is on the rise. It now occurs in one out of every 110 births in the United States. We need to take action to address the causes of autism now and provide support to individuals and families affected by the disorder.

National Autism Awareness Month is an important advocacy tool for those affected by autism and by those affected by Asperger's to raise awareness about a similar but distinct condition. Asperger's disorder is distinctive from autism in that its symptoms are less severe. Individuals with Asperger's often possess above-average intelligence and want social interaction with other people, but their condition is an obstacle to communication. Americans with Asperger's and autism have so much to offer. With the right support to help overcome the barriers of their disorders, they can share their talents and can be productive, engaged members of our communities.

I am proud to offer my support to National Autism Awareness Month, and I urge my colleagues to support not only this resolution but individuals and families affected by autism and Asperger's throughout our country.

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the cochair of the Autism Caucus, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank my good friend, Mr. PITTS, for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 1033, a resolution designating April 2010 as National Autism Awareness Month.

I thank my friends and colleagues Messrs. REICHERT, GERLACH, and BACHUS. I especially want to thank my good friend and colleague, the cochair of the House caucus, who is MIKE DOYLE, and Mr. PITTS for their leadership on this very important resolution and, most importantly, on this very important issue.

This resolution serves an important function of increasing awareness of the 1.5 million individuals who are living with autism spectrum disorder and of the extreme dedication and efforts of their families in providing the best possible care and environments for their children, grandchildren, brothers, and sisters.

I want to especially note that the parents and the grandparents of children with autism have earned our enormous respect. I know many families with autism. It can be a very harrowing ordeal. Yet they do it with such class and with such love and dedication to their children. The concerns of the parents are validated in the community, and have since been found to be true nationwide in terms of the numbers.

I will point out to my colleagues that I've been involved in autism since 1981,

since my first term. I'll never forget visiting Eden Institute in Princeton, which does tremendous breakthrough research and work with autism children and young adults. Frankly, for me, it wasn't until 1998 when two parents, Bobbie and Billy Gallagher from Brick Township, New Jersey, came to me after hours and said, Congressman, we'd like you to sit down and look over some of the evidence and data we've accumulated because it is our belief that there is a prevalent spike in autism in Brick.

We brought in all of the good players. We brought in the CDC; we brought in the NIH folks, and we brought in public health experts. We put together a study to find out what was or is the trigger that was seemingly causing this huge spike in autistic children in one particular town in the State of New Jersey. To our shock and dismay, as this was going on, we discovered that there was a prevalence spike for sure, but it was most likely throughout the rest of New Jersey and probably, as it was highly suggestive, throughout the entire country of the United States.

So we put together a piece of legislation to establish what we called the Centers of Excellence to look at, especially, and to apply the best principles and prevalence techniques to determine what was causing this and to determine how many children were being malaffected by autism. To our shock and dismay, again we discovered that the United States didn't have a one in 10,000 prevalence, which is what the expectation was when I was elected in 1981, but that it was much higher. At that point, it was put at about one out of every 150 children.

So the Centers of Excellence were funded. The legislation was passed. I'll never forget that Congressman MIKE BLIRAKIS was kind enough to accept our legislation as Title I of the Children's Health Act, which was a very comprehensive law designed to help children. Title I not only put more money into the CDC but also into the National Institutes of Health, which then was very much underfunding this effort to try to help autistic children.

Just for the record, we were spending \$287,000 per year on autism at CDC. As my colleagues know, that falls off the table at some of our bureaucracies. That number has now gone up significantly to about \$15 million, and now we have a critical mass of money working very synergistically with local health departments and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as well as on these prevalence efforts to find out what the parameters are of this developmental disability, because you can't combat something unless you know the who, what, when, where, and why of it, and that is what we are trying to do.

In the early 2000s, Mr. DOYLE and I launched the Autism Caucus. We have tried throughout these years to be very supportive of every legislative effort, including the cure autism efforts of

these past several years. The key has been more money for research, more money for early childhood interventions and trying to deal with the issue of what happens after a child reaches adulthood. It seems to me that every dollar we spend early-on means that we can have a higher functioning autistic child, now young adult, who can get a job, who can become gainfully employed, and who can become as independent as humanly possible. So every dollar we spend on autism is a dollar well spent.

Mr. DOYLE and I have already entered into a compact with friends in Northern Ireland, in Wales, and in Scotland where they have an autism problem. This is a global phenomenon, as my friends and colleagues know, and we need to do more.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. PITTS. I yield the gentleman an additional 2 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I have introduced a bill which would provide small grant money to fledgling nongovernmental organizations throughout the world.

In my travels to places like Nigeria, I met up with a small nongovernmental organization which was like David versus Goliath. I was trying to get the government there to realize that they have an autistic problem that is estimated to affect about 1 million children in Nigeria alone. Nobody knows how accurate that is, but the best and most well-intentioned people in Nigeria have come to that number.

So we do have a serious spike. What is the trigger? Is it too many vaccines given at one time, you know, where the megadosing that occurs today in that little child can't metabolize and where the body can't deal with it in a way that leads to the child's being safe from those other diseases? Is it thimerosal? For our children and for our young adults who have autism, we need to continue to leave no stone unturned in finding what the trigger is or what the multiple triggers are.

Finally, again, I want to thank Bobbie and Billy Gallagher, who are the two parents in Brick Township who came forward with a stack of papers and who said, Please, will you take this up?

I took it up, and I've enjoyed working closely with friends and colleagues on the other side of the aisle so that we can cure autism now. The sooner the better.

Mr. DOYLE. I would just like to say that I deeply appreciate the efforts of the gentleman from New Jersey on behalf of all people with autism and on behalf of their families. He has been a true champion, and I appreciate his friendship, too.

Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TOWNS).

Mr. TOWNS. Thank you very much for yielding time to me.

Of course I want to commend the members of the Autism Caucus for

their outstanding work that they're doing. I also hope that this resolution will bring about awareness and support for autism.

Madam Speaker, let me just say that we know that more research is needed, and I think that any way that we can make it possible for people to focus on it and to understand how important these additional resources are makes a whole lot of sense.

I just want to commend my colleagues for their outstanding work that they have done to bring us to this point. I am hoping that, as a result of this, we will get more Members involved and, of course, more people involved in this issue, because there are still a lot of unanswered questions. At any time we can create a situation where people will focus on it, then I think answers will be coming forth.

So I just want to commend my colleagues for this effort. I look forward to working with them because this is a very serious problem. It is one that should not be ignored, and it is one on which we really should spend time making certain we get the word out in order to get the kind of research that we need to have in order to bring about a solution.

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to one of the cosponsors of the resolution, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS).

Mr. BACHUS. Madam Speaker, as a parent myself, I know that there is nothing more important than the well-being of a child to a parent. When there is a change in a child's behavior and when the parents or grandparents notice that something is wrong, they are the first to notice, and they are also the first to want answers. Often those answers are that the child has autism or is on the autism spectrum.

I also join in commending MIKE DOYLE and CHRIS SMITH for their long labors on this issue, and I would like to associate myself with the remarks of Mr. TOWNS and of others.

Autism has always been a challenging diagnosis. There is an increased instance of autism spectrum disorder. It is quite a phenomenon. As of yet, it hasn't really been explained, but it is something that children, families, and siblings will have to deal with their entire lives. There are two very important things that we now know about autism:

The first is that awareness is critical, so I commend Mr. REICHERT and Mr. GERLACH, along with Mr. PITTS and the other speakers today. That's what makes the designation of April as National Autism Awareness Month so significant. The sooner an autism spectrum disorder is identified, the sooner a child can receive specialized treatment.

The second thing we know is that early intervention programs can make an exceptional difference in the quality of life for these precious children. This has been proven not just by studies but by the personal stories told by individual families. They've seen their

young people literally blossom in front of their eyes as a result of early treatment.

The Birmingham area, from which I hail, has an innovative center called Mitchell's Place. It's named for Mitchell, who is the son of the two founders, the Meislers. It is a model for autism services, not just for Alabama but for the entire country. Mitchell's Place combines the latest in behavioral and developmental research on autism with a structured and caring environment. When you walk through the doors of the center, which is bright and nurturing, you can feel the love for the children, and they respond.

There are many promising developments to report to families living with autism. Recently, I and Congressman MIKE DOYLE, who is the chairman of the Congressional Autism Council, hosted a briefing at which we heard from the Director of the National Institutes of Health, Dr. Thomas Insel. He told us about exciting research which is progressing in a number of areas. Expert researchers are studying causes, early intervention programs, strategies for older individuals with autism, and even potential cures.

□ 1745

In my State, thanks to the efforts of State Representative Cam Ward, we now have an Autism Task Force which is coordinating our State resources, and I know we patterned that after Pennsylvania, Congressman GERLACH.

In conclusion, it's an honor to speak on behalf this resolution and of the children and parents and grandparents and loved ones of those with autism. It's a pleasure to work with many Members of Congress who care so deeply about this issue, including the lead cosponsors, Congressmen REICHERT and GERLACH, along with Mr. PITTS from Pennsylvania, Mr. SMITH, and Mr. DOYLE. Today's resolution has great meaning to millions of families across America affected by autism spectrum disorder.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. PITTS. I yield the gentleman an additional 15 seconds.

Mr. BACHUS. If it encourages parents to be more attentive to the symptoms of autism and to get early treatment for their children, we will have done a great service for their families.

Mr. DOYLE. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PITTS. I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Pennsylvania, my good friend JIM GERLACH.

Mr. GERLACH. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues and to thank my colleagues—Congressman BACHUS, Congressman REICHERT, Congressman PITTS, Congressman SMITH, Congressman DOYLE, Congressman TOWNS. Thank you for joining in support of this resolution to recognize April 2010 as National Autism Awareness Month.

As you may know, last December the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released a report on the prevalence of autism. This report concluded that autism affects an estimated one out of every 110 children in the United States, including one in 70 boys. This means that autism is more common than childhood cancer, juvenile diabetes, and pediatric AIDS combined. In addition to being one of the most common disorders that affect our children, autism is believed to cost more than \$90 billion a year to treat.

Earlier this month, the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare released its Pennsylvania Autism Census, which conducted a county-by-county census on the number of individuals suffering from autism. The total number of individuals with autism in the Commonwealth is estimated to be over 25,000, including 3,500 adults with the disorder.

Despite the prevalence of autism and its impact on individuals, families, and our Nation's health care system, there is still much to be learned about how best to diagnose and treat this disorder. That's why our resolution supports devoting resources toward researching the root causes of autism and identifying the best treatments and programs to help individuals with the disorder.

Because autism affects the entire family, not just the child with the disorder, our resolution also commends the parents and relatives of children with autism for their dedication in providing for their special needs. While there's no single cause known for autism, I believe we should focus our attention on increased awareness and funding for autism research. Our resolution is an important step in achieving our goal of searching for better treatments and hopefully, one day, a cure.

Please join me and my colleagues in supporting this resolution.

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, more children will be diagnosed this year with autism than with diabetes, cancer, and AIDS combined. It is the fastest-growing serious developmental disability in the world.

In fact, the United Nations General Assembly has gone so far as to adopt a resolution declaring April 2 as annual "World Autism Awareness Day" (WAAD). Autism is only the third disorder to be recognized in this manner by the UN, showing the disorder's pervasive nature and ever-increasing effect on millions of people throughout the world.

Autism afflicts one in every 150 American children—nearly one in every 94 boys. This statistic is disturbing, especially when we know so little about the root causes of the disorder.

As the Founder and co-chair of the Congressional Children's Health Care Caucus, I recognize the destructive force of autism and am proud to do my part to raise awareness of this life-altering and little known disorder. Children deserve a solid foundation—and communities are starting to understand autism like never before, but there is more we can do.

By raising public awareness of autism, my goal is to see that resources are dedicated to

research the disorder's cause and to develop treatments and possibly, one day, a cure. Funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is an important part of this equation, as it offers the best hope to finding treatments and cures for diseases and disorders like autism.

Collectively, we must commit every available resource to research and treatment in order to enhance the quality of life for children, their families, and the people who care for and assist them in their lives.

Currently there is no medical detection or cure for autism, but early diagnosis and intervention holds much promise. Through enhancing awareness of autism, together we will offer hope to people who desperately need it. I encourage my colleagues to join in this mission to raise awareness and recruit the resources that will bring hope to children, their families, and their caregivers.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H. Res. 1033, supporting the designation of April of 2010 as "National Autism Awareness Month" and supporting efforts to devote new resources to research into the causes and treatment of autism and to improve training and support for individuals with autism and those who care for individuals with autism. I would also like to commend Congressman DAVID REICHERT, the sponsor of this resolution, for his commitment to improving training and support for individuals with autism and those who care for individuals with autism.

This resolution draws critical attention to the impact that autism has on the people of the United States. Although only 1 percent of the population of children ages 3–17 in the U.S. have an autism spectrum disorder, the cost of autism over the lifespan is 3.2 million dollars per person. The effects of autism are widespread. Autism is the fastest-growing developmental disability with a 1,148 percent growth rate. There are 1 to 1.5 million Americans who live with an autism spectrum disorder.

I have had the pleasure of visiting the Marcus Autism Center, near my district, where I was able to see and experience first hand just how crucial it is that families and children affected by autism are given the attention, support, and resources they need. The Marcus Autism Center is a non-profit organization with a mission to provide information, services and programs to children with autism and related disorders, their families and those who live and work with them. The Marcus Autism Center offers integrated advanced clinical, behavioral, educational and family support services. Through the encouragement and financial support of the Marcus family, Marcus Autism Center has become a nationally recognized center for excellence for the provision of coordinated and comprehensive services for children and adolescents with developmental disabilities. The Marcus Autism Center has served more than 30,000 people to date.

Please join me and support this resolution to bring awareness to improve training and support for individuals with autism and those who care for individuals with autism in the United States.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1033, a resolution designating April 2010 as "National Autism Awareness Month." I thank my friends and colleagues, Representatives REICHERT,

GERLACH and BACHUS for introducing this resolution—and my friend and co-chair of the House Autism Caucus, MIKE DOYLE.

This resolution services an important function of increasing awareness of the 1.5 million individuals living with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and the extreme dedication and efforts of their families in providing the best possible care and environment for their children, grandchildren and brothers and sisters. Especially the parents and grandparents of individuals with autism deserve our enormous respect and support. Also deserving recognition are the many ASD advocacy groups who have been working hard for so long and the many providers of care and services for individuals with autism.

From my first session in Congress in 1981, I have been a consistent advocate for individuals with developmental disorders, including autism. In 1998, I became much more deeply involved after learning and listening to parents in a local community in my district—Brick Township—about their concerns that the frequency of autism was much higher than was being reported by officials at the time. The concerns of those parents were validated for their community and have since been found to be true nationwide. As stated in the resolution before us, autism is now known to affect every 1 in 110 children—my own state of NJ has among the highest rates in the nation at 1 in 94.

Autism generally is a life-long disability that can overwhelm families, as their lives become consumed with the considerable challenges of identifying appropriate biomedical and psychosocial treatments, schooling and other needed support systems for their autistic child—and eventually for an autistic adult.

Our nation is in the midst of an autism crisis that becomes more severe each passing month, a crisis that costs our nation tens of billions of dollars annually in medical care, behavioral therapy, special child care, and a range of child and adult services needed to care for these individuals. The resolution before us provides the staggering financial costs of autism—\$80,000 per year to provide specialized treatment in a medical center, \$30,000 per child per year for special education services, and a nationwide costs of over \$90 billion per year.

The resolution appropriately recognizes the critical importance of early diagnosis and early treatment for children with autism in order to have the greatest positive impact on their lives, and it recognizes the extremely important need to provide worker training for young adults and adults with autism so that they can active members of the workforce.

Thankfully, Madam Speaker, in December 2006, this Congress passed and then President Bush signed the Combating Autism Act, which added significant provisions to broaden and strengthen activities related to autism. Among its provisions, that law requires the National Institutes of Health to expand ASD-related research—including investigating possible environmental causes of autism, authorizes grant programs to improve the epidemiology of autism, and also includes a very robust section “Autism Education, Early Detection, and Intervention,” to improve the early screening, diagnosis, interventions, and treatments for ASDs.

While we all were gratified with passage of the Combating Autism Act, we also recognized

that there is a tremendous unmet need to improve services for both children and adults with autism. That is why I am extremely gratified to have joined my friend MIKE DOYLE, along with Rep. ELIOT ENGEL, in introducing the Autism Treatment Acceleration Act (H.R. 2413), to provide for enhanced support, services and treatment, as well as research for individuals with autism spectrum disorders and their families.

To mention only two provisions of the bill—it would establish an Adult Services Demonstration Project to provide an array of services to adults with autism spectrum disorders including: post secondary education, vocational and self advocacy skills, employment; residential services, supports and housing; nutrition, health and wellness; recreational and social activities; and transportation and personal safety. And it would establish a “National Network for Autism Spectrum Disorders Research and Services” to strengthen linkages between research and service initiatives at the federal, regional, state and local levels, and facilitate the translation of research on autism into services and treatments.

I know that all of us here share the commitment to dramatically improve the lives for the well over a million American children and adults who have an autism spectrum disorder and improve the outlook for their families and other loved ones. I thank my friends Representatives REICHERT, GERLACH and BACHUS for introducing this resolution. And I thank my friend MIKE DOYLE for his leadership in establishing new programs to help individuals with autism.

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DOYLE. Madam Speaker, I hope that the House will unanimously approve House Resolution 1033, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DOYLE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1033, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The title of the resolution was amended so as to read: “Expressing support for designation of April 2010 as ‘National Autism Awareness Month’ and supporting efforts to devote resources to research into the causes and treatment of autism and to improve training and support for individuals with autism and those who care for individuals with autism.”

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

IN RECOGNITION OF BOYS AND GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TOWNS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Boys and Girls High School in Brooklyn, New York. The boys basketball team last month won the New York City Public School Athletic League, PSAL, city championship. It is really referred to as the High, as it is affectionately known in Brooklyn, and has a long known history of athletic excellence.

I’m not standing here recognizing the High’s boys basketball team only because it won its first PSAL championship in 31 years or because it has several players who college scouts are seriously recruiting. All of that is noteworthy and I think it is just great that that has occurred. But I also stand here because of the coach, Ruth Lovelace, the coach of the High’s basketball team. She is the first woman in the history of the PSAL to take a male team to the championship and win.

Ms. Lovelace did not do it alone. She did not shoot or dribble a ball or even get fouled. Rather, she provided the leadership to take them all the way.

Ms. Lovelace starred in basketball at the High, played both at Hilbert Junior College and Seton Hall. As coach, she won 377 times and lost only 108 games during her 15-year tenure. Coach Love and the team have been featured in documentaries on ESPN, NBC, and CBS.

Coach Love would not have had the opportunity to lead a male team to a basketball championship without Congress’s efforts to pass title IX in 1972. This signature piece of legislation opened the doors for women like Ruth Lovelace to participate in organized sports.

Again, I applaud the Boys and Girls High School boys basketball team for having a winning season and making the residents of the 10th Congressional District of Brooklyn, my fellow Brooklynites, so proud.

I would like to just enter the names of these great athletes into our CONGRESSIONAL RECORD because they are not only great athletes, they’re also great scholars, they’re also great gentlemen, and I think that within itself is something that we should recognize today.

I would like to recognize Jonathan Arroyo, Dominique Bostick, Ralph Colon, Leroy Truck Fludd, Anthony Hemingway, Leroy Isler, Darren Kirby, Christopher Lockhart, Nkosi Brown, Jamal Mapp, Aaron McBurnie, Saequahn Pettus, Jeffland Neverson, Jobse Reyes, Antoine Slaughter, Calvin Sterling, Michael Taylor, Jerry White, Brandon Williams.

And let me just recognize the coaches. First I want to recognize the athletic director, Sheila Shale; and then head coach, again, Ruth Lovelace; and